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Criminal Justice.

The scheme regarding the creation of Bench Courts.

* 368 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the scheme of creating Bench Courts and reducing the number of stipendiary magistrates, in the matter of separation of executive from judicial functions, was approved of by Government ;

(*b*) whether any orders have been passed on the subject ; and

(*c*) if so, whether he will lay the order on the table of the House ?

A.—The scheme is intimately connected with that for the separation of judicial and executive functions and the Government are awaiting the orders of the Government of India and the Secretary of State on the latter scheme.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know when orders are likely to issue ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As soon as the orders of the Government of India are received."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Is it not the policy of the Government to increase the number of first-class Benches ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" We are doing it. We cannot pronounce a general scheme to be carried out without obtaining the sanction of the Secretary of State and the Government of India."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Will not the Government follow the policy of increasing the number of first-class Bench Courts ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If the question had been asked, the answer would have been in the affirmative."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" The question is now asked."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That is the policy of the Government."

Additional Sessions Judge, Agency Tracts.

* 369 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU : With reference to the answer to question No. 165 on 6th February 1925, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the reasons why the Agency Additional Sessions Judge was placed in charge of the Vizagapatam Sessions division previous to January 1925 without appointing a District Judge for Vizagapatam District Court ?

A.—Local arrangements were made as the vacancy was expected to be a very short one.

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" May I know the period for which the vacancy was originally expected to last ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am glad to have had an opportunity of giving a full answer. Mr. Cotton had to be relieved immediately as four murder cases were pending trial and the first application for leave was only for one month. Hence the appointment of

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Mr. Arndt as a matter of administrative convenience. Application for further extension was received from Mr. Cotton only on 10th November. There was an interval of only six weeks from then before the Christmas and as a Judge was returning from leave then, the existing arrangement was continued, to save expense and administrative inconvenience."

Sub-Magistrate, Omalur, Salem district.

* 370 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 7 answered at the meeting dated 3rd February 1925, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any correspondence between Mr. Somalli Pannady (member of the depressed classes), Honorary Magistrate, and the District Collector, Salem, regarding the ill-treatment meted out by the then Brahman Sub-Magistrate of Omalur taluk, Salem district; and

(*b*) whether the Government will lay on the table of the Council a copy of the complaint submitted by the Honorary Magistrate, Mr. Somalli Pannady, to the District Collector, Salem, and the reply given to Mr. Somalli Pannady and the Sub-Magistrate, Omalur, in the matter by the District Collector, Salem?

A.—The Government do not think any useful purpose will be served by laying the correspondence on the table.

Irrigation.

Nulagunda tank, Harpanahalli taluk.

* 371 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the supply channel to Nulagunda tank in Harpanahalli taluk, Bellary district, breached;

(*b*) the amount annually remitted since then on the ayacut under the tank;

(*c*) the probable cost of the necessary repairs to the supply channel; and

(*d*) whether any provision has been made yet for the repairs to the channel, and if not, when it will be made?

A.—The Government are not in possession of the information, but have called for it.

Relief measures in the flood-affected districts.

* 372 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of lives lost, houses destroyed, persons left homeless, value of cattle destroyed, and the value of crops destroyed during the recent heavy floods in each flooded district;

(*b*) all the districts affected recently by heavy floods;

(*c*) the amount granted by the Government to each flooded district;

(*d*) all the relief measures taken by the Government;